

## ***Section 6***

# **PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION**

### **Background**

DLAMP participants are required to successfully complete a senior-level course in professional military education (PME). The PME requirement may be fulfilled by attending a ten-month resident program offered at the military service schools or the National Defense University, or an equivalent non-resident program. There are limited opportunities open to DLAMP participants in the ten-month programs.

### **Overview**

Senior-level professional military education is a comprehensive program for senior military and civilian leaders that focuses on developing national security strategy and policy. Participants should carefully select their PME preferences. It is recommended that you review each school's mission, curriculum focus, and student body profile, and consider how attending a particular school will complement your career plans.

Each PME institution sets its own eligibility criteria. (Refer to the school summaries later in this section for additional information.) Civilians who attend Senior Service Schools generally:

- Are career status, GS/GM 14-15 (or equivalent), serving in permanent competitive appointments (only the Army and Naval War Colleges will accept a GS-13 by exception).
- Have or are able to obtain a Top Secret clearance.
- Have a bachelor's degree--historically, more than fifty percent have master's degrees and approximately three percent hold doctorates.
- Have outstanding performance records.
- Possess skills needed for continued achievement and leadership roles.

Although each school's mission is unique, their primary objective is to prepare future military and civilian leaders for high-level policy, command, and staff responsibilities. This is accomplished through studies in diplomatic, economic, military, and informational dimensions of the national security environment, to include the impact of these factors on strategy formulation, implementation, and campaigning.

### **Curriculum**

The curriculum is composed of five major components:

National Security Strategy provides the participant with an understanding of how to develop, apply, and coordinate policy objectives to ensure national security goals are met.

National Planning Systems and Processes provides the participant with an understanding of the systems and processes used to determine national policy. Participants learn how time, coordination, policy, politics, doctrine, and national power impact the national planning process.

National Military Strategy and Organization provides the participant with an understanding of the importance of developing, deploying, employing, and sustaining military resources, in concert with other elements of national power, to meet national security goals.

Theater Strategy and Campaigning provides the participant with an understanding of how joint operations and multinational campaigns support national objectives. It examines the relationships and interplay among the national strategic, theater strategic, and operational levels of war.

Systems Integration in 21st Century Battlespace provides the participant with an understanding of the integration of joint and Service systems responsible for supporting military operations during war.

### **Senior-Level Professional Military Education Institutions**

National Defense University

- National War College
- Industrial College of the Armed Forces

Service Schools

- Army War College (resident or non-resident)
- College of Naval Warfare
- Air War College (resident or non-resident)
- Marine Corps War College